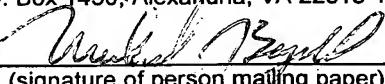


FORM PTO-1390 (Rev 5-93)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER METPAT P79AUS														
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371			U.S.APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R.1.5) 10/562,042														
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/FR2004/001518	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE June 17, 2004	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED June 27, 2003															
TITLE OF INVENTION HITCH COUPLING ASSEMBLY WHICH DAMPENS THE HUNTING MOVEMENTS OF A ROAD TRAILER																	
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US René DONNARD																	
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:																	
<p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</p> <p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. (PCT/IB/308 mailed) c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US) </p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)), with original drawing(s), is attached.</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> The International Application, with paragraph numbering added thereto, is attached.</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. </p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p>																	
Items 11. to 16. below concern other document(s) or information included:																	
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 with PTO/SB/08a/08b.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification w/Marked-Up Version of Amended Specification.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Examination Report</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Request</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Annexes to Pre. Ex. Rep.</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> International Search Report</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____ sheets of formal drawings</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> German Novelty Search Report</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Abstract</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> _____ copies of citations</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Claims Small Entity Status</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Form PCT/IB/308</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notification of File Missing Parts</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> International Publ. No. _____</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> German Language Specification</td> </tr> </table> </p>				<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Examination Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Annexes to Pre. Ex. Rep.	<input type="checkbox"/> Submission of Formal Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> International Search Report	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ sheets of formal drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> German Novelty Search Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Abstract	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ copies of citations	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant Claims Small Entity Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Form PCT/IB/308	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notification of File Missing Parts	<input type="checkbox"/> International Publ. No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> German Language Specification
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<input type="checkbox"/> Form PCT/IB/308	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notification of File Missing Parts																
<input type="checkbox"/> International Publ. No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> German Language Specification																
(Face page only)																	

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the papers indicated as being transmitted therewith is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date February 15, 2006 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EV681474711US addressed to the: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Michael J. Bujold
(typed or printed name of person mailing paper)


(signature of person mailing paper)

17. ■ The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(5): Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492)(a)(1) ... \$750.00 No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492)(a)(2) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)). \$790.00 Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.492)(a)(3) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$1,110.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492)(a)(4) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				0	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 ■ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				130	
Claims	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate		
Total Claims	-20 =	0	x \$ 50.00	0	
Independent Claims	-3 =	0	x \$200.00	0	
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$360.00	0	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				130	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Applicant Claims Small Entity Status. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				0	
SUBTOTAL =				130	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later the <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				0	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				0	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				0	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				130	
				Amount to be: refunded	\$
				charged	\$
<p>a. ■ A check in the amount of \$130 to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>04-0213</u> in the amount of \$____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. ■ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>04-0213</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p>					
<p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p> <p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: <u>Michael J. Bujold</u></p> <p>Michael J. Bujold - Registration No. 32,018 CUSTOMER NO. 020210 Davis & Bujold, P.L.L.C. Fourth Floor 500 North Commercial Street Manchester, NH 03101-1151 Telephone (603) 624-9220 Telefax (603) 624-9229</p>					
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